



Kathren Lois Williams

June 7, 1939 - May 16, 2017

Kathy Williams was born on June 7, 1939 in Alturas, California to R.J. Ritchey and Kathleen Roberts. She died at 77 years of age on May 16, 2017 after a short battle with cancer, with her family by her side. Our Mom and sister attended school in Ft Bidwell and Cedarville, California and Medford, Oregon. In 1958, in Reno, Nevada, Mom married our Dad, Wally Williams, and from that union Tami was born in 1959 and Gina in 1961. In 1963, Mom and Dad moved to John Day, Oregon where Mom started working for Dr. Bennett. In 1967, Mom and Dad purchased Driskill Memorial Chapel after the death of Carl Driskill . Shortly after the purchase of the funeral home, Mom started working with Dad. That was the beginning of Moms life-long passion of helping people, eventually leading to her becoming a licensed Funeral Director. For many years she, and seven other life-long friends, calling themselves "The Bridge Club", made annual trips to Reno, in Jean Sprouls motor home, for gambling and shopping. In 1980, she moved to Bend, Oregon where she started working for Paul Reynolds at Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home. In 1986 Mom moved to Redmond Oregon to manage Redmond Memorial Chapel. Mom was very active in the Redmond community for many years. She was passionate about her involvement with the Hospice of Redmond for 30 years and she was on the board of Directors for 21 years. Mom looked forward to the Hospice Festival of Trees where she directed tree traffic, telling every one where to set up their trees. She took great pride in bidding up the price of the trees into the thousands of dollars, all for the

benefit of Hospice of Redmond. Mom enjoyed working at Lords Acre day sale at Powell Butte, selling pies. Mom was active in the Community Presbyterian Church where she served as an elder. Mom was on the Redmond City Council from 1998 and 1999, and on the Budget Committee for the City from 1999 to present. Under Moms leadership, the columbarium at Redmond Memorial Cemetery went from a dream to a reality. Mom loved to play bridge, especially with the "boys", and going on trips and cruises with the Oregon Funeral Directors Association. She enjoyed many travels with her friend Ardyce Swift. Her great passion was doing cross stitch, and she always said she couldnt live long enough to complete all the patterns she had collected. Mom was preceded in death by her parents and step mother Iris. Kathy is survived by her daughters Tami (Keith) and Gina (Fred), granddaughter Ashley and great grandson Jayden, brothers Kenneth (Joan), Karol, Robert (Sandra) and sister Susan (Mike). The family would like to thank the nurses and doctors at St Charles Hospital Cancer Center for their care and Paul Reynolds for guidance and support. Kathy will be missed by all of her many, many friends with whom she shared her life. A memorial service will be held at the Community Presbyterian Church in Redmond, on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 11:00. Donations in her memory may be sent to Hospice of Redmond for the Transitions Program, the Community Presbyterian Church and St Thomas Catholic Church.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Redmond Memorial Chapel - July 12, 2023 at 02:18 PM

FO

“ Kathren Lois Williams

Funeral Home Owner - August 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ "The Bridge Club" Jean Sproul, Leona Miller, Joann Radinovich, Blanche Lundbom, Carolyn Asher, Kathy Williams, Joy Teague, Kay Trafton. So many wonderful memories. Kay Trafton, Paul and Michele Dieker

Michele Dieker - May 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I knew Kathy from playing bridge. She was always a smiling, friendly person. Her family will surely miss her a great deal.

Judy Davidson - May 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Simply put: SHE was the BEST!!! You will be missed so much, that beautiful smile and crazy sense of humor that has gotten so many of us through some of the worst of times and all the wonderful conversations and fun in all the other times. Watch out Heaven here she is. Sending my heartfelt condolences to Kathy's family and knowing you have many cherished memories to keep. Rest in Peace Friend

Linda Cummings Benton - May 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *She was a great lady and will be missed by many.*

Donna Bezona Cook - May 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *Kathie will be missed by so many of us. She was a wonderful resource as a patient perspective with regards to several of the St. Charles projects. She had a great sense of humor and a kind regard for all people. I will never forget her kindness and consideration at my nephew's funeral years ago.*

Janet Brown - May 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *I am so glad I had a chance to get to know her. She was wonderfully direct and charming. My prayers are with her family for their loss. Rest In Peace Kathy.*

Jeanie White - May 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ I was in shock with the news of Kathy's passing. She had been heavy in my thoughts the week before her passing. somehow I had lost her home number. Kathy always made me laugh and I think I did the same for her. One of our favorite memories was when Kathy moved into her new home she invited Myself my wife Caryl Dick and Lynn VanDusen over for dinner and cocktails, and of course a tour of her new home. She was so proud of her new home wide hallways, big master suite and of course her cross stitching room. The thing that made that night so special was her stories of becoming a funeral director. It was not an easy road for her but I would dare anyone to get in her way. She loved Redmond Memorial Chapel and the community of Redmond. "Do it right or Don't do it" that's how she was. My wife said I don't know what Kathy enjoyed more feeding you cookies cake or any other sweet she could make, or you making her laugh. I loved her and will miss her a lot. God bless Kathy

MikeDotson - May 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ So sorry to hear of your family's loss. Kathy was a special and wonderful person with a great love of life. She will be greatly missed.

Connie Thomson - May 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Oh my gosh, just read about your mom in the paper today. I'm so sorry to hear about her loss Tami & Gina. Hugs to you!

Toni Rieger - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Kathy was such an incredible lady! We laughed together, cried together and were great conspirators. Her smile was contagious and she lead me through some unbelievable tough spots that only she could deal with. I will miss her humor, compassion and incredible abilities. Heaven has a new, well-loved Angel! May God give you peace and understanding. Lois Ahern

Lois Ahern - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Tami & Gina we are heartbroken to hear off the passing of our dear friend Kathy , she was a wonderful lady & the best neighbor ever. We will miss her & I will miss our chats on the phone . We send you all our love to you both & all the family our thoughts are with you all.xx

Carole & Jim Henry - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WT

“ Tami and Gina. I'm very sorry for your loss. I served my apprenticeship with your mom and dad in the early 70's where they taught me to be a good funeral director. I've always been grateful.

Walt Taylor - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ So sorry for your family's loss! Kathy will be greatly missed. She was a neighbor before her last move. It was always nice seeing her and talking when I walked by. She always had a smile and kind word. She even helped me with my counted cross-stitch! I know she was a great comfort to many people.

Elaine Martin - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ We are so sorry for your loss! Kathy's smile was contagious and we seldom saw her without it! She was an awesome person and we are better people to have known her. Heaven gained a special angel!

Willie & Kathie Weaver - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Kathy's Family, I am so sorry to hear about your loss. She was such a great friend to my mom, Ardyce Swift. I loved her from the first time I met her in Chelan and will miss her. She had such a great sense of humor and love of life.

Rene Franzen - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ I am so sorry to hear this. Kathy guided me and my family through several losses over the years. I grew to count her as a friend as well as a total professional. She will be missed by many. My condolences to the family. Your loss is huge. Praying for all of you.

Just Goodrich - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ So lady I will miss that quick wit. I met her in JR high. My Mom worked with her for years and years. I remember going to a couple of funerals and she would be directing a service. She would always put her arm around me and ask " how's it going kid". I will miss her and I loved her.

April MCCafferty-Aldredge - May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Kathy gave me a shot as an apprentice with not much real world experience. She shot straight and was very proficient in her work with families. She also showed me the value of a strong hospice relationship with the funeral home and gave me good advice when we re-structured the hospice in Curry County. Great lady and a great funeral director!

Travis Sandusky - May 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Kathy was a wonderful woman with a wit and an unforgettable sense of humor and yet one always felt friendship from her smile. I remember a gag she played on us; with a gadget that ... when the slightest movement set it off. .. you would hear a KNOCK KNOCK KNOW... and a frantic voice would follow.... " Excuse me, Excuse me,,, WOULD YOU LET ME OUT OF HERE!." and then repeat again & again.... she put that thing in the Hearse near an empty casket being transported... OH MAN it would have been priceless to see the look on Steve's face on video! She laughed and laughed and laughed. I'm sorry she's gone, but glad her she didn't suffer long. She will be well remembered with joy and missed by many, I'm sure.

Donna Hammond - May 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Oh Kathy - you weren't supposed to go so soon. I still had so many life lessons to learn from you. You are who I wanted to be when I grew up. :-) I shall miss you, my friend. I know as soon as you get settled into your new "home" you will start "taking names and kicking butts" if matters are not being handled as they should be. You were and always shall be a magnificent force of nature. Now you shall be able to play bridge, quilt and do your exquisite needlework until the end of time. I cannot fathom the sense of loss that your family must be feeling. I only know, that as one of those who was fortunate enough for you to call "friend" - your exit from this plane of life has left a hole that cannot be filled. My heartfelt condolences go out to your family.

Kathy Doyle - May 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM